



DIVISION OF MINES
BOARD OF COAL MINING EXAMINERS
CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS
Website: <http://dmme.virginia.gov/dm/default.htm>

ELECTRICIAN CHIEF (SURFACE AND UNDERGROUND) (COAL)

PHOTO ID REQUIRED

Article 3 of the Coal Mine Safety Laws of Virginia establishes requirements for certification of coal mine workers. The certification requirements are included in §45.1-161.24 through §45.1-161.41 in which the Board of Coal Mining Examiners is established for the purpose of administering the certification program. The Board has promulgated certification regulations 4 VAC 25-20, which set the minimum standards and procedures required for Virginia coal miner examinations and certifications.

CERTIFICATION CLASSIFICATION: *Chief Electrician (Surface and Underground) (Coal)

This certification authorizes the holder to:

- Perform electrical work and inspections at all surface areas of underground, surface and underground coal mines
- Make examinations on electrical equipment
- Conduct and record results of electrical examinations

APPLICATION/EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS:

- Application (BCME-1) and \$40.00 fee 5 working days prior to examination
 - **Note:** Classes are limited to 20 people and tend to fill quickly. Application fees are due no later than 5 working days prior to the examination, but this will not guarantee that an opening will be available.
- Hold a valid Electrical Repairman and Electrical Maintenance Foreman certification
- Five years of electrical experience as applied to underground coal mining or appropriately related work experience approved by the Chief of the Division of Mines.

NOTE: Experience must be submitted within 5 years of passing the examination.

After 5 years records are destroyed. Must reapply if future certification is desired.

- Current first aid training (MSHA 5000-23 Annual Retraining or New Miner Inexperienced Training acceptable)

EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS: A score of 80% on each element of the examination.

<u>ELEMENTS OF EXAM</u>	<u>NUMBER OF QUESTIONS</u>
Chief Electrician Exam (CH)	50
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Alternating Current ▪ Direct Current ▪ Circuits & Equipment ▪ Cable Splicing ▪ High Voltage ▪ Legal Requirements ▪ Permissibility ▪ National Electrical Code (not implemented) ▪ Practical Stations (not implemented) ▪ Records – practical (not implemented) 	

RECOMMENDED REFERENCE/STUDY MATERIALS:

- Title 30 CFR Part 75, 77 (Included in study guide)
- Coal Mine Safety Laws of Virginia (\$25.00)
- BCME Requirements (No Charge)
- Electrical Study Guide (\$20.00)
- First Aid For Miners Study Guide (\$15.00)

The above mentioned study materials are available at the Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy's Big Stone Gap Office, Customer Assistance Center (276) 523-8235 and Lebanon Field Office (276) 415-9650.

***8 hours annual Electrical Repairman continuing education will update this certification.**